

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested. No claims have been amended. No claims have been canceled or added. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections

Independent claims 12 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Sitaraman et al. (U.S. Patent no. 6,263,369). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

Claim 12 recites:

12. A machine-readable medium having sequences of instructions stored therein which, when executed by a processor cause the processor to perform a process comprising:
automatically configuring a network cache so that the network cache is able to communicate with a database to authenticate a user; and
operating the network cache.
(Emphasis added).

The above claim recites automatically configuring a network cache so that the network cache is able to communicate with a database to authenticate a user. In contrast, Sitaraman does not teach or suggest the above emphasized claim limitation. Sitaraman discloses a communication system that has more than one access point. The communication system has a global database storing user record. When a user tries to logon to the communication system via an access point, the user's record is fetched from the global database, transmitted and stored in a local cache or database in the access point (see Abstract; column 1, lines 56-67; column 2, lines 7-12, lines 21-35, lines 54-58; 49-68).

The Examiner cited column 2's lines 54-58 and lines 21-35, column 7's lines 49-55, column 9's lines 22-29, alleging that Sitaraman teaches the above emphasized limitation (see Office Action mailed on 5/2/2006, page 3). However, the cited sections contain no disclosure or even a hint of automatically configuring a network cache so that the network cache is able to communicate with a database to authenticate a user. Specifically, Sitaraman's column 2, lines 54-58 and lines 21-35 discloses a network access point which may be configured to have a local database or cache for authentication purposes. The network access point, however, is not automatically configured so that it is able to communicate with a database to authenticate a user, such as recited in claim 12. Sitaraman's column 7, lines 49-55 discuss how a user record is retrieved into a mother cache and then sent to a local cache of a network access point. Column 9, lines 22-29 discuss cache transfer events used to load the local cache(s) and mother cache. None of the above cited sections contains discussion, or even a hint, regarding automatically configuring a network cache so that the network cache is able to communicate with a database to authenticate a user.

Therefore, at least for the foregoing reasons, claim 12 is patentable over Sitaraman. All claims which depend on claim 12 are also patentable over Sitaraman.

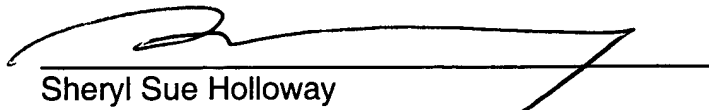
Similarly, claim 13 also recites a similar limitation as discussed above for claim 12. Thus, at least for similar reasons, claim 13 and all claims depend on it are patentable over Sitaraman.

For the foregoing reasons, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly requested.

If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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